

## WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A composition useful in treating a condition of mammalian tissue, said composition being comprised of a peptide or biological equivalent thereof, selected from the group consisting of  
5 SEQ ID 55, SEQ ID 56, SEQ ID 57, SEQ ID 58, SEQ ID 59, SEQ ID 60, SEQ ID 61, SEQ ID 62, SEQ ID 63, SEQ ID 64, and SEQ ID 65.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein said peptide is at a therapeutically effective concentration in a range of about .0002% to about 90%.
- 10 3. The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is a cosmetic preparation.
4. The composition of claim 3, wherein said cosmetic preparation is formulated as a topical preparation to be applied to a patient's skin.
- 15 5. The composition of claim 4, wherein said topical preparation is selected from the group consisting of an emulsion, lotion, spray, aerosol, powder, ointment, cream and foam.
6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the mammalian tissue being treated is a blood vessel.
- 20 7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition is useful for treating a condition selected from the group consisting of hypertension, coronary heart disease, arteriosclerosis, angina, coronary thrombosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, and restenosis post angioplasty.
- 25 8. The composition of claim 1, wherein said peptide is useful in improving tissue turgor.

9. The composition of claim 1, wherein said composition further includes a pharmaceutical delivery system.

10. The composition of claim 9, wherein said pharmaceutical delivery system is selected from the group consisting of a topical delivery system and a subcutaneous delivery system.

11. The composition of claim 10, wherein said topical delivery system is selected from the group consisting of a cosmetic preparation, powder, emulsion, lotion, spray, ointment, aerosol, cream and foam.

12. A peptide having a formula of  $R_1$ -Valine-Valine-Proline-Asparagine- $R_2$ , wherein  $R_1$  is an amino portion modified to include an amine, amide, or amino acid sequence having 1-10 amino acids and  $R_2$  is a carboxy portion modified to include an amide, ester, or carboxy terminus sequence having 1-10 amino acids.

13. The peptide of claim 12, wherein the peptide is SEQ ID 55.

14. The peptide of claim 12, wherein the peptide is SEQ ID 60.

15. A method of enhancing tissue elasticity, said method being comprised of administering a therapeutically effective concentration of a peptide or biological equivalent thereof, selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID 55, SEQ ID 56, SEQ ID 57, SEQ ID 58, SEQ ID 59, SEQ ID 60, SEQ ID 61, SEQ ID 62, SEQ ID 63, SEQ ID 64, and SEQ ID 65.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the peptide is SEQ ID 55.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the peptide is SEQ ID 60.

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20. The method of claim 15, wherein the peptide is an active ingredient in a cosmetic formulation.

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